

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

ITEM

6

DECISION

TOPIC

Tuttle Lake Wetland Complex, Emmet County -- Mark Mitchell and Janet Stoner

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested for the acquisition of a parcel of land located 1½ miles north and 3 miles east of Dolliver, and 18 miles northeast of Estherville. This 155-acre tract is offered by Mark Mitchell and Janet Stoner for the appraised price of \$170,712. The tract is encumbered by a Wetland Reserve Program easement acquired by the NRCS in 2004.

Steven K. Schmidt, Licensed Appraiser of Schmidt Appraisal Services of Spirit Lake, Iowa submitted the appraisal. Jerry Gibson negotiated the purchase agreement.

The subject tract consists of 155 acres of former cropland encumbered by a WRP easement. The restoration of the tract included 122 acres seeded to native prairie plant species, and 33 acres of wetlands. There were 2.08 acres adjacent to the county road retained by the sellers from the larger 157.08-acre parcel. The restored wetlands and uplands provide excellent habitat for waterfowl and upland wildlife species. The parcel has excellent access from an adjacent county road.

Funding for this acquisition will be provided by Prairie Lakes Phase II NAWCA Funds (100%) (Capital Link #10). Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

Attachment

Linda Hanson, Administrator
Management Services Division
October 9, 2008